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Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 61/181 of 20 December 2006, entitled "Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity", the present report summarizes the work done by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in support of Member States in their efforts to combat transnational organized crime, corruption and terrorism, as well as in preventing crime and reinforcing criminal justice systems. It also addresses the implementation of the Programme of Action, 2006-2010, on strengthening the rule of law and the criminal justice systems in Africa. The report contains information on efforts to strengthen the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, its technical cooperation capacity and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as its governing body. Finally, the report highlights emerging policy issues and suggested responses, and contains recommendations aimed at strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme.

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I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 61/181 of 20 December 2006, entitled "Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity", the General Assembly reaffirmed the importance of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, and the importance of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in the fulfilment of its mandate on crime prevention and criminal justice, including providing Member States with technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance, and coordinating with all relevant United Nations bodies. The Assembly called upon the Secretary-General to enhance further the effectiveness of the global programmes addressing trafficking in human beings, corruption, organized crime, money-laundering and terrorism and to strengthen the focus of UNODC on those global programmes. The Assembly also recalled the Bangkok Declaration on Synergies and Responses: Strategic Alliances in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (General Assembly resolution 60/177, annex, of 16 December 2005). The Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit, at its sixty-second session, a report on the implementation of the mandates of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, reflecting also emerging policy issues and possible responses.

II. Promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation

A. Combating organized crime

Transnational Organized Crime Convention and the Protocols thereto

2. Adherence to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (the "Organized Crime Convention") and the Protocols thereto (General Assembly resolutions 55/25, annexes I-III, and 55/255, annex) has continued to increase. As at the end of June 2007, a further 12 States had ratified the Organized Crime Convention (bringing the total number of ratifications to 134), 11 States had ratified the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (General Assembly resolution 55/25, annex II, hereinafter referred to as the "Trafficking Protocol") (bringing the total to 112), 14 States had ratified the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air (General Assembly resolution 55/25, annex III, hereinafter referred to as the "Migrants Protocol") (bringing the total to 106) and 9 States had ratified the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition (General Assembly resolution 55/255, annex, hereinafter referred to as the "Firearms Protocol") (bringing the total to 62).

3. While primary responsibility for convention implementation rests with States parties, the success of the global fight against transnational organized crime also depends upon how effectively the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime is able to address issues of treaty compliance and to mobilize assistance to those States parties that require it to

fully implement the instruments. At its third session, held in Vienna from 9 to 18 October 2006, the Conference of the Parties paved the way for a sustainable process of translating the treaty framework into effective responses against transnational organized crime. The Conference of the Parties adopted decisions relating to a reporting mechanism, international cooperation in criminal matters, the Trafficking Protocol and the Migrants Protocol and on technical assistance (CTOC/COP/2006/14, para. 1, decisions 3/1-3/4). In its decision 3/2, the Conference decided that an open-ended working group on international cooperation would be a standing element of the Conference of the Parties. In addition, the Conference welcomed a number of tools developed by UNODC, including the mutual legal assistance request writer tool. The Conference, in its decision 3/3, urged States parties to review their policies with regard to travel and identity documents, as well as to provide, strengthen or facilitate training and to take or strengthen measures to improve cooperation in investigations.

4. In its decision 3/4, the Conference endorsed the priority areas for technical assistance listed below. Proposals on activities to meet needs in those priority areas will be considered by the Open-ended Interim Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance, which is to meet in Vienna in October 2007:

(a) On the Convention and cross-cutting issues:

(i) Criminalization of the offences covered by the Convention and its Protocols;

(ii) International cooperation in criminal matters and for the purpose of confiscation, with special emphasis on extradition and mutual legal assistance, paying particular attention to raising the awareness and training of criminal justice practitioners, especially judges and prosecutors, regarding the forms of international cooperation;

(iii) The establishment and/or strengthening of central authorities dealing with requests for mutual legal assistance and/or extradition;

(iv) Compliance with the obligation to provide information on the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto.

(b) On the Trafficking Protocol and the Migrants Protocol:

(i) Implementation of the requirements of the Protocols regarding the needs of victims, the repatriation of victims of trafficking in persons and the return of smuggled migrants;

(ii) Implementation of the provisions on witness protection;

(iii) Subregional or regional workshops involving the countries of origin, transit and destination of victims of trafficking in persons and smuggled migrants, with particular emphasis on law enforcement and judicial personnel.

(c) On the Firearms Protocol: deactivation, record-keeping, marking of firearms, and the identification of competent authorities.

5. The Conference will hold its fourth session in 2008, in accordance with its rules of procedure, which establish that, following the first three annual sessions, the regular sessions of the Conference shall be held biennially.

6. UNODC has continued its efforts to promote universal ratification of and full compliance with the Organized Crime Convention and the Protocols thereto and to provide assistance to States seeking to ratify and implement those instruments. For greater integration and synergy, a number of assistance activities dealt with legislative incorporation not only of the Convention and its Protocols, but also of instruments on drugs, corruption and terrorism. Other technical assistance activities were undertaken to develop and implement projects covering a wide range of issues related to transnational crime (see E/CN.15/2007/7).

7. UNODC has developed a *Toolkit to Combat Trafficking in Persons* to provide practical help to Governments, policymakers, police and relevant civil society actors. The *Toolkit*, which was published in October 2006, includes checklists to help identify trafficking victims, guidance on interviewing victims and victim protection, and tools to help police officers undertake cross-border investigations and to advise Government officials on how to ensure the safe repatriation of victims. The *Toolkit* will be updated periodically to include new best practices.

8. Training-related activities to strengthen the capacity of criminal justice actors to respond to trafficking in persons continues to be a priority in assistance provided to Member States by UNODC. For example, in 2006, a training manual was developed for the West African subregion, in the context of a project on measures to prevent and combat trafficking in persons in that subregion (Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Niger, Nigeria and Togo), and utilized in "train-the-trainer" workshops in Burkina Faso, Ghana and Nigeria, while three computer-based training modules to combat trafficking in persons were finalized in Thailand; it is planned to implement the training modules regionally and, ultimately, globally. In 2008, UNODC will publish advanced anti-human trafficking training manuals on the protection of victims and the investigation and prosecution of traffickers for the use of law enforcement officers, prosecutors and judges.

B. Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking

9. In March 2007, UNODC launched the Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking, which further advanced efforts towards the implementation of the Trafficking Protocol. The Global Initiative addresses the need for a global partnership to fight human trafficking and recognizes that, to effectively counter the threat of trafficking in persons, broad international cooperation among Member States and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) is essential.

10. The main results expected from the Global Initiative are an increase in the commitment and capacity of Member States and other stakeholders to counter human trafficking and implement the Trafficking Protocol. A forum on human trafficking is to be held in Vienna in February 2008; the forum is expected to raise awareness and foster cooperation and partnerships among the various stakeholders, as well as help to avoid duplication of efforts in the fight against human trafficking. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice is providing guidance on the political aspects of the forum, further to its decision 16/1, entitled "Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking".

C. Smuggling of migrants

11. The smuggling of migrants is a major issue of concern throughout the world. Although knowledge of the issue is limited, there is evidence that it has grown to a multi-billion-dollar illicit business and that it attracts the involvement of organized crime. Tackling the issue of migrant-smuggling will require a comprehensive, multi-dimensional effort, including the strengthening of the criminal justice response. Following several assessment activities, including fact-finding missions carried out in June 2006 to Gambia, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal and Sierra Leone, UNODC has developed a programme, subject to funding, that aims to support the efforts of North and West African countries to more effectively prevent and combat the smuggling of migrants.

D. Countering corruption

12. As at June 2007, there were a total of 140 signatories and 93 parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption. The Conference of the States Parties to the Convention held its inaugural session in Jordan from 10 to 14 December 2006 and adopted resolutions on review of implementation; an information-gathering mechanism; adapting laws and regulations in conformity with the Convention; asset recovery; technical assistance; international cooperation on technical assistance; consideration of bribery of officials of public international organizations; and best practices in the fight against corruption. The Conference also welcomed the offer of the Government of Indonesia to act as host to the second session of the Conference (see CAC/COSP/2006/12).[1]

13. UNODC, in collaboration with the United Nations Interregional Crime and Criminal Justice Institute, prepared a *Legislative Guide for the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption*.[2] UNODC, also in collaboration with the Institute, continued to work on the development of a technical guide, designed to complement the *Legislative Guide*, for the implementation of the Convention, to be completed in 2007. It is intended that an online library should complement the technical guide.

14. Pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/23 of 27 July 2006, entitled "Strengthening basic principles of judicial conduct", UNODC initiated a commentary on the Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct and a technical guide to be used in providing technical assistance aimed at strengthening judicial integrity and capacity. That work included the holding of an intergovernmental expert group meeting, in March 2007, at which the draft commentary was reviewed and revised. On the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 2007/22 of 26 July 2007, in which the Council requested UNODC to finalize a guide on judicial

[1] The report of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption on its first session and relevant documentation may be found at the UNODC website (http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/caccosp_2006.html). See also the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption" (A/62/116).

[2] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.06.IV.16.

integrity and capacity; to develop and implement technical cooperation projects and activities aimed at strengthening the integrity and capacity of the judiciary, and to explore the development of such projects and activities for other criminal justice institutions as well.[3]

15. UNODC continued to implement projects and technical cooperation activities in Brazil, Cape Verde, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Nigeria, the Russian Federation, South Africa and Swaziland. Projects were completed in Colombia, Indonesia, Kenya and Nigeria. Comprehensive assessment reports were prepared in 2006 on justice sector integrity and capacity in Indonesia, Nigeria and South Africa; action plans were developed to enhance the effectiveness, efficiency and integrity of the judiciary in Nigeria and South Africa; national anti-corruption strategies were developed in Cape Verde and Swaziland; advisory services on the establishment and operation of anti-corruption bodies were provided in Brazil and Kyrgyzstan; and Nigerian institutions were extensively briefed on the findings of an assessment of the legal, institutional and professional asset recovery capacities of the country. UNODC also organized and conducted over a dozen national and regional seminars and training workshops providing policy and technical input and provided specialized training for more than 1,500 judges, prosecutors, lawyers, investigators and other professionals from approximately 30 countries. UNODC developed and launched an Anti-Corruption Mentor Programme and, in cooperation with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), posted its first mentor in the national anti-corruption body of Kyrgyzstan.

16. UNODC assists the parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in the conduct of self-assessments and analysis of their implementation efforts. For that purpose, UNODC has launched a pilot programme for the review of implementation of the Convention, in which 16 countries from all regions have volunteered to participate.

17. The United Nations Democracy Fund approved a UNODC project aimed at providing Liberia, Mauritania and Togo with a blueprint for anti-corruption action based on the United Nations Convention against Corruption. Implementation of the project began in 2007, in cooperation with the Institute for Security Studies, including assessing the normative framework and capacities of the participating countries to implement the Convention, putting in place normative measures in line with its provisions and developing a concrete action plan.

18. In its resolution 58/4 of 31 October 2003, the General Assembly designated 9 December International Anti-Corruption Day in order to raise awareness of corruption and of the role of the United Nations Convention against Corruption in combating it. On the occasion of the third International Anti-Corruption Day on 9 December 2006, UNODC developed a range of awareness-raising tools and materials geared towards enhancing the knowledge and understanding of government officials, as well as of citizens about the Convention and its potential to bring about a positive impact on their daily lives. The global effort was actively promoted through UNODC field and project offices.

[3] The report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/2007/30-E/CN.15/2007/17), including draft resolution IV on strengthening basic principles of judicial conduct, is available on the UNODC website (http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/crime_cicp_commission_session_16_drafts.html).

E. Countering terrorism

19. The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 60/288 of 8 September 2006, encouraged UNODC to enhance its provision of technical assistance and Member States to resort to the technical assistance delivered, inter alia, by UNODC. The resolution has led to an expansion of the technical assistance activities of UNODC in legal and related capacity-building matters, in particular within the framework of its global project on strengthening the legal regime against terrorism. Since January 2003, UNODC has supported 137 countries in ratifying and implementing the international instruments related to terrorism. Direct assistance has been provided to 113 countries, 61 of them since June 2006.[4] Indirect assistance was provided through subregional and regional workshops, of which nine have been held since June 2006. UNODC has contributed to improving the status of ratification of the relevant international instruments. The Member States that received assistance undertook an estimated 362 new ratifications, of which 67 occurred in 2006. The number of countries that have ratified the first 12 international instruments has risen from 26 (in January 2003) to 88 (in April 2007) and the number of countries that have ratified 6 or less of the first 12 instruments dropped from 98 (in January 2003) to 31 (in April 2007).

20. Support provided for the implementation of the international instruments has increased, in particular that provided to assist in the preparation of national legislation and the training of criminal justice officials. To date, at least 41 countries have taken steps to incorporate the provisions of the international instruments into national legislation. Approximately 5,000 criminal justice officials have been provided with specialized substantive briefings, 1,700 in 2006 alone. Nine technical assistance tools have been developed. Technical assistance is provided under the policy guidance of the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the Security Council and its Executive Directorate: between 1 June 2006 and 31 May 2007, UNODC participated in country visits to Algeria, Bangladesh, India, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mali, Pakistan, the Philippines and Turkey.

21. UNODC has continued to strengthen its operational partnerships with many subregional, regional and international organizations. New partnership arrangements were established with the Commonwealth Secretariat, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, the Pacific Island Forum secretariat and the Southern African Development Community (SADC). UNODC also contributes to the work of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, which brings together 24 United Nations and international entities working on counter-terrorism issues and aims to trigger concrete initiatives for the implementation of the United Nations Global

[4] Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea Bissau, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Moldova, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, St. Lucia, Sudan, Syria, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

Counter-Terrorism Strategy. At the initiative of the Government of Austria and in cooperation with the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, which acts as chair of the Task Force, UNODC organized a Symposium on Advancing the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which was held in Vienna on 17 and 18 May 2007. The event was attended by over 350 participants, representing 107 Member States and many subregional, regional and international organizations. The purpose was to raise awareness for the Strategy and to promote its implementation, as well as to identify measures for assisting Member States, including by mobilizing enhanced support for the work of the Task Force.

22. A major challenge for UNODC is to meet the increasing demand for implementation assistance, as more countries ratify more international instruments. Long-term, sustained assistance is necessary for strengthening the capacity of criminal justice systems to apply the instruments in full conformity with the rule of law. To implement the relevant elements of the Strategy, UNODC must also develop new initiatives to promote subregional and regional legal cooperation, good practices, legal research and legal training, building also upon its expertise in crime prevention and drug control. Increased substantive support for and financial resources from Member States is required to meet that challenge. The attention of the General Assembly is drawn to draft resolution II, entitled "Technical assistance for implementing the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its sixteenth session to the Economic and Social Council for adoption by the General Assembly (see E/2007/30-E/CN.15/2007/17).

23. The range of specialized counter-terrorism technical assistance provided by UNODC in the legal and related capacity-building areas has continued to expand since 2003, in terms of its geographical reach and the number of countries receiving assistance, as well as in terms of the substantive content of the legal assistance provided. In response to the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, UNODC will reinforce its counter-terrorism initiatives, including by contributing to the work of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force.

F. Countering money-laundering

24. Preventing and detecting money-laundering is a highly effective means of identifying criminals and criminal enterprises and countering the underlying criminal activity from which money is derived, disrupting the activities of criminal groups and identifying and confiscating assets derived from crime.

25. The technical assistance delivered by UNODC, including through its Global Programme against Money-Laundering, contributes to combating money-laundering and the financing of terrorism. Support is provided, including through a field-based mentoring initiative, to over 100 countries and jurisdictions. UNODC, together with the International Monetary Fund, completed an updated legislative drafting tool of a model law and its commentary on money-laundering and the financing of terrorism for civil law systems.[5] UNODC has also developed computer-based training in

[5] The civil law is available in several languages on the website of the International Money Laundering Information Network (http://www.imolin.org/imolin/index.html).

countering money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, which has been provided to countries in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America. Prosecutors, judges and investigators have gained experience in the areas of money-laundering prosecution and asset-seizure cases by utilizing the mock-trial programme developed by UNODC in Latin America. In addition, UNODC has pursued partnerships with other relevant international entities, including the Commonwealth Secretariat, the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF) and FATF-style regional bodies, the International Monetary Fund, Interpol, the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission of the Organization of American States, OSCE, the Pacific Island Forum secretariat and the World Bank.

26. UNODC continues to develop and deploy systems to assist Member States to combat money-laundering and terrorist financing. Among these are two new information-technology-based analytical and case-management systems, developed by UNODC for use by financial intelligence units and investigative agencies worldwide. UNODC has continued to improve the International Money-Laundering Information Network, including the Anti-Money-Laundering International Database, by initiating legal analysis utilizing information on new trends and standards in money-laundering and provisions related to the financing of terrorism.

III. Preventing crime and strengthening criminal justice

A. Use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice

27. During the reporting period, UNODC published an updated edition of the *Compendium of United Nations Standards and Norms in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice*, which provides a collective vision of how criminal justice systems should be structured. The new edition of the *Compendium* has four parts: (a) persons in custody, non-custodial sanctions, juvenile justice and restorative justice; (b) legal, institutional and practical arrangements for international cooperation; (c) crime prevention and victim issues; and (d) good governance, the independence of the judiciary and the integrity of criminal justice personnel.[6]

28. During the reporting period, UNODC developed for Member States a comprehensive set of tools and technical assistance services on all the aspects of crime prevention and criminal justice covered by the United Nations standards and norms. Particular emphasis was given to vulnerable groups, such as women and children, countries with economies in transition and countries in post-conflict situations, as requested by Economic and Social Council resolutions 2004/25 of 21 July 2004 and 2006/25 of 27 July 2006. The development of partnerships with key United Nations, regional organizations and NGOs active in the area resulted in the establishment of joint tools, assessment and programme development missions, projects and activities. Assessment and programme development missions were carried out in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guineau Bissau, Haiti, Iraq, Liberia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nepal, Southern Sudan and Syria, whenever possible in coordination with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the

[6] The *Compendium* is available on the website of UNODC (http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/compendium.html).

Secretariat. Between 2004 and 2007, the UNODC technical assistance portfolio in the area of criminal justice reform grew by 78 per cent.

29. UNODC is currently revising and updating the handbook entitled "*United Nations Criminal Justice Standards for Peace-keeping Police*" (the "Blue Book") so as to include new areas such as the issues of integrity, sexual misconduct and assistance to child victims, as well as new criminal justice standards developed over the last 13 years. Since its first publication in 1994, the Blue Book has provided a concise overview of relevant international standards and norms, readily accessible to those with monitoring functions in the field of criminal justice.[7]

30. UNODC is assisting countries in enhancing the capacity of their respective criminal justice systems to respond to child victims and witnesses of crime in accordance with the Guidelines on Justice in Matters Involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime (Economic and Social Council resolution 2005/20, annex, of 22 July 2005). UNODC is developing a set of technical tools, including a set of model legislative provisions, commentaries and an implementation guide, to assist Member States in implementing the Guidelines.

31. UNODC has developed a Counter-Kidnapping Manual for the use of law enforcement agencies, prosecutors and policymakers. The Manual addresses typologies of kidnap, policy issues, legislation needs and coordination at the national and international levels, together with the principles of prevention, preparedness and operational responses. Since the launch of the Manual in 2006, three regional training programmes have been delivered in Latin America and the Caribbean, and training in other regions is planned for 2007 and 2008.

32. Working with experts from the judicial systems of Member States, UNODC is developing good practice guidelines for the establishment and operation of effective witness protection programmes in criminal proceedings involving organized crime, together with model legislation to support such programmes. Witness testimony is central to any modern criminal justice system and is crucial to the dismantling and conviction of crime syndicates. The guidelines address the necessity for witness protection programmes, policies for their establishment, crimes and witnesses requiring protection measures, rights and obligations of States and witnesses, together with in-court procedural protection. The guidelines will be completed by the fourth quarter of 2007. In addition, UNODC has provided in-country capacity-building assistance to Member States to establish and strengthen witness protection programmes and to support cross-border and regional cooperation in their operation.

33. In the context of the promotion of law enforcement cooperation, UNODC has been instrumental in the development, planning and implementation of two regional law enforcement initiatives. In partnership with the five Central Asian States, Azerbaijan and the Russian Federation, UNODC has worked to establish the Central Asian Regional Information Coordination Centre in Almaty, Kazakhstan, which will host seconded law enforcement officials from the seven participating States. The Centre will commence operations with a pilot phase in the fourth quarter of 2007. A similar regional initiative for the six Gulf States, the Gulf Centre for Criminal Intelligence, to be located in Doha, will become operational in 2008.

[7] The Blue Book is available on the website of UNODC (http://www.unodc.org/pdf/crime/publications/BlueBook.pdf).

34. A further initiative designed to strengthen border control and international cooperation is the container control programme of UNODC and the Customs Cooperation Council (also known as the World Customs Organization). Piloted in Ecuador and Senegal, the programme is now being extended to include Ghana and Pakistan. The initiative established joint agency port control units to target containers suspected of smuggling contraband.

B. Information-gathering and research

35. UNODC has continued to work towards producing more and better information on crime trends through the identification of key indicators and instruments for collecting, analysing and comparing relevant information and trends, and publishing studies and reports to increase the evidence and knowledge base in that field available to policymakers. UNODC has worked on the development of a set of crime and criminal justice indicators, with special attention being paid to the areas of corruption, trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants. Synergies have been established with the work of the European Commission in its efforts to propose a methodological approach for the compilation of comparable crime statistics in the region.

36. On the basis of recommendations made by the open-ended expert group on ways and means of improving crime data collection, research and analysis, which met in Vienna in February 2006,[8] the questionnaire for the tenth United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems, covering the period 2005-2006, was revised to clarify definitions and to collect data on context and metadata, while maintaining continuity with past Surveys. As a result of consultations with Interpol, the Statistical Office of the European Commission and the Committee of Experts of the European Sourcebook of Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics, several definitions were aligned across different international data collections. New questions have been added with a view to enabling the reporting of crimes included in the United Nations conventions on transnational organized crime and corruption.

37. In order to strengthen the capacity of countries to complement administrative statistics with survey data, UNODC, in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Europe, is finalizing a manual for conducting victimization surveys, to be published in 2008, which will include a "core questionnaire" that may be used to design national victimization surveys and to ensure international comparability.

38. UNODC has undertaken thematic and regional studies that have highlighted the paucity of information and data on crime issues at the national, regional and international levels in many world regions. Engaging in extensive research to uncover new information sources and new trends should be seen as part of the process of strengthening the evidence to aid crime prevention.

[8] The results of the meeting of the open-ended expert group on ways and means of improving crime data collection, research and analysis with a view to enhancing the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant international entities are contained in document E/CN.15/2006/4.

39. In May 2007, UNODC published a report entitled *Crime and Development in Central America: Caught in the Crossfire*,[9] in English and Spanish and made it available to regional policymakers and officials in the regional development banks and international organizations, thereby filling a gap in the understanding of patterns of crime and development in Central America. A study entitled *Crime, Violence and Development: Trends, Costs and Policy Options in the Caribbean* was undertaken and published jointly with the World Bank in May 2007.[10] It provides policymakers with detailed information and a new analysis of the impact of crime on the countries in the region. Finally, a study entitled *Crime and Stability in South-East Europe*, analysing crime and governance in the region, is to be published by the end of 2007.

40. Africa is the least-documented region in terms of data and information on crime and drugs. Hence, cluster VI of the Programme of Action, 2006-2010, on strengthening the rule of law and criminal justice systems in Africa, called for the urgent development of mechanisms to collect, analyse, publish and disseminate data on drugs, crime and victimization. The objective of the UNODC programme called "Data for Africa" is to assist African countries and the international community in improving monitoring, understanding and tackling the drug and crime nexus in Africa and its links with socio-economic development. In 2007, activities were conducted in Burkina Faso, Egypt, Ghana, Niger and Nigeria to encourage responses to the United Nations annual reports questionnaires on drugs and the United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems. In collaboration with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), UNODC is also seeking to establish one focal point in each ECOWAS country for the collection of data on drugs. Preparations are under way for the implementation of crime victim surveys in several African countries, including with the collaboration of the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat).

IV. Implementing the Programme of Action, 2006-2010, on strengthening the rule of law and the criminal justice systems in Africa

41. Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/21 of 27 July 2006, entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action, 2006-2010, on strengthening the rule of law and the criminal justice systems in Africa", requested UNODC to support the implementation of the Programme of Action, in cooperation with all African States, the African Union and other regional organizations, in particular in the context of the New Partnership for Africa's Development. Relevant entities of the United Nations system were also invited to increase further their interaction with UNODC in supporting the implementation of the Programme of Action, 2006-2010, and to integrate crime prevention and drug control measures into their development

[9] The publication is available on the website of UNODC (http://www.unodc.org/unodc/index.html).

[10] The publication is available on the website of UNODC (http://www.unodc.org/pdf/research/Cr_and_Vio_Car_E.pdf).

programmes. UNODC has finalized a new memorandum of understanding with the Commission of the African Union, establishing the foundation for a solid partnership in all areas of drug control and crime prevention in Africa. In addition, UNODC has provided expertise to the Commission in support of the formulation of a revised African Union plan of action on drug control and crime prevention for the period 2007-2010. Harmonized with the Abuja programme of action, the proposed plan of action is to be considered at an African Union ministerial conference planned for November 2007.

42. UNODC is supporting and participating in a joint European Union/Africa strategy, to be approved by the European Union-African Union Summit, to be held in Lisbon in November 2007. The strategy is expected to provide a key opportunity to pursue security and development in the context of African political ownership.

43. In 2007, UNODC expanded its technical cooperation programme in Africa, pursuing a balanced approach between legislative norm-setting, law enforcement and preventive activities. Annual expenditures increased from 7 million United States dollars in 2005 to 9 million in 2006. In 2007, expenditures of 12 million dollars are projected. While there has been a dramatic increase in the volume of pipeline projects for Africa over the past year, the UNODC pipeline programme for Africa remains seriously underfunded, thus requiring the priority attention of the donor community, in particular since justice and security are central to effective and sustainable development in Africa.

44. UNODC has developed four projects for West and North Africa, which will complement the six anti-human trafficking projects already ongoing and include providing assistance to ECOWAS and SADC. UNODC has five ongoing anti-corruption projects in Africa, including continued support for the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission in Nigeria through a 30-million-dollar project funded by the European Commission, and assistance to Cape Verde, South Africa and Swaziland. In West-Central Africa and in cooperation with the Intergovernmental Action Group against Money Laundering in West Africa, UNODC initiated the development of national strategies against money-laundering and the financing of terrorism and also provides computer-based training in the area of money-laundering and law enforcement.

45. In the field of criminal justice reform, UNODC is working with Mozambique and South Africa to develop and implement national action plans for judicial reform. Technical assistance is also provided to Nigeria and South Africa, where UNODC trained 300 court managers. In Liberia, at the request of the United Nations Mission in Liberia, UNODC conducted an assessment mission and, in Egypt, UNODC worked with national agencies to prepare a national strategy on street children.

46. Training in drug abuse prevention and HIV/AIDS in Kenya is ongoing, along with seven other prevention, treatment and rehabilitation projects in Africa. The projects include training peer educators and adapting the academic curriculum in Egypt, as well as awareness-raising at three juvenile prisons in South Africa. In 2006, UNODC and the Government of Cape Verde launched a 6-million-dollar joint integrated programme, financed by the Governments of Cape Verde, Denmark, Luxembourg and the Netherlands, to counter illicit trafficking, corruption and money-laundering.

V. Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as its governing body

A. Methods of work

47. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2003/31 of 22 July 2003, entitled "Functioning of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice", decided that the Commission should, at the end of each session, elect its bureau for the subsequent session and encourage it to play an active role in the preparation of the regular and intersessional meetings and to provide continuous policy guidance to UNODC. In the preparation and follow-up to its sixteenth regular session, the Commission has provided effective and continuous policy guidance to UNODC. The Council also decided that the Chairman of the Commission should, whenever appropriate, invite the chairmen of the five regional groups, the chairman of the Group of 77 and China and the Presidency of the European Union to participate in the meetings of the bureau. The new approach enabled the extended bureau and the Commission to work effectively during the intersessional preparations leading to the sixteenth session in 2007. For example, the Commission agenda for the sixteenth session was restructured and reformatted so as to ensure greater involvement by experts and practitioners, which is expected to be done also for future sessions, and the topics for the thematic discussions were formulated and agreed upon.

B. United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund

48. The United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund was established in 1967, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1086 B (XXXIX) of 30 July 1965 and was initially named the United Nations Trust Fund for Social Defence. It is an invaluable source for increasing the capacity of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme to respond efficiently to the need of Member States for technical assistance in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice. In its resolution 61/252 of 22 December 2006, section XI, entitled "Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as its governing body", the General Assembly authorized the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as the principal policymaking body on crime prevention and criminal justice issues, to approve, on the basis of the proposals of the Executive Director of UNODC, the budget of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, including its administrative and programme support costs budget. The delegation of authority aims to make the operations funded through the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund as timely and effective as possible and has enabled procedures to be streamlined and harmonized with those concerning the administration of technical cooperation projects managed under the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme. Pursuant to Commission

resolution 16/3, the first reconvened session of the Crime Commission will be held in November 2007 to consider the budget of the Fund.

C. Strategy for the period 2008-2011 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

49. On the recommendation of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the Economic and Social Council approved the strategy for the period 2008-2011 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (see Council resolutions 2007/12 and 2007/19). The strategy is a joint policy response to the major international security threats (including drug trafficking and abuse, transnational organized crime, corruption and terrorism), as identified by the 2005 World Summit. Through its mandates, UNODC contributes to the multilateral responses to these challenges, as a key strategic player at the national, regional and global levels. The strategy sets out a comprehensive plan for a four-year period. It is the product of 18 months of extensive consultations among Member States, NGOs, experts and UNODC staff. The strategy aims, inter alia, to guide UNODC to become more results-oriented, accountable, transparent, effective and flexible enough to respond to growing demands for a variety of policy and operational services, to translate the UNODC mission of achieving security and justice for all by making the world safer from crime, drugs and terrorism into a platform for action and facilitate the alignment of resources with results.

50. The strategy identifies three main themes, with corresponding result areas and performance indicators:

(a) The rule of law:

(i) To promote, at the request of Member States, effective responses to crime, drugs and terrorism by facilitating the implementation of relevant international legal instruments;

(ii) To promote, at the request of Member States, effective, fair and humane criminal justice systems through the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice;

(b) Policy and trend analysis:

Enhanced knowledge of thematic and cross-sectoral trends for effective policy formulation, operational response and impact assessment in drugs and crime;

(c) Prevention, treatment and reintegration, and alternative development:

Reduction of opportunities and incentives for illicit activities and gains, including through sustainable alternative development, and reduction of drug abuse, HIV/AIDS (as related to injecting drug abuse, prison settings and trafficking in human beings), criminal activity and victimization.

D. Fostering strategic partnerships in crime prevention and criminal justice

Resource mobilization and partnering

51. The overall level of voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund in 2006 amounted to 20.7 million dollars and is likely to reach a level of over 75 million dollars for the biennium 2006-2007. About 90 per cent of those voluntary contributions are intended for interventions in specific countries and areas. In view of the expected rapid increase in United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund programme funds in 2007, more general-purpose or soft earmarked funding will be needed to enable UNODC to better plan and implement its strategic priorities in accordance with its mandates and core functions. A summary of the contributions and pledges to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund during the period from January 2005 to June 2007 is attached in the annex to the present report.

52. The new strategy for the period 2008-2011 for UNODC provides for a comprehensive and forward-looking vision that will enable UNODC to position itself better both within the United Nations system and for the development of partnerships with major international development finance agencies. In addition, the strategy allows for a more programmatic and thematic engagement with bilateral donors, which increasingly support local governments through policy-based budget support.

53. UNODC carries out its activities in cooperation with other parts of the United Nations system, in particular with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, UN-Habitat, the United Nations Development Programme, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, the World Bank, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security, and entities external to the United Nations, such as the African Union, the Asian Development Bank, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, ECOWAS, the European Commission, the European Foundation Centre, the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, the European Police Office, the Inter-American Development Bank, Interpol, the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) Fund for International Development, the Organization of American States, OSCE, SADC, the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network and other relevant intergovernmental organizations and NGOs. Such cooperation ranges from regular policy dialogue to collaboration in the preparation of reports, participation in meetings, briefings, technical assistance, training and the sharing of information and experience. In an important development in early 2007, UNODC, with the generous financial support of the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, launched the Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking, which is designed to have a long-term impact and to open a new page in the worldwide fight against human trafficking.

VI. United Nations Congresses on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

A. Follow-up to the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

54. The Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice was held in Bangkok from 18 to 25 April 2005. It culminated in the adoption of the Bangkok Declaration on Synergies and Responses: Strategic Alliances in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. The Bangkok Declaration, endorsed by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and recommended by the Economic and Social Council, was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 60/177 of 16 December 2005.

55. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2006/26 of 27 July 2006, reiterated its invitation to Governments to implement the Bangkok Declaration. In the same resolution, the Council also requested UNODC to convene an intergovernmental group of experts to discuss the Eleventh Congress and previous congresses in order to accumulate and consider lessons learned from prior congresses with a view to developing a methodology for capturing such lessons for future congresses.

56. The Meeting of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts was held in Bangkok from 15 to 18 August 2006 (E/CN.15/2007.6). The report of the meeting contains suggestions for ensuring effective follow-up to the United Nations Congresses on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. These include action to be taken by Member States and relevant organizations, such as NGOs and the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, to follow up on the outcomes of previous congresses; the addition of a standing "follow-up" item on the agenda of future congresses; thematic discussions to be held by the Commission on specific issues covered by previous congresses; and invitations to Member States to undertake and share a self-assessment of their follow-up efforts on the outcomes of the previous congress.

57. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, at its sixteenth session, endorsed the report of the Meeting of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts. The Commission also encouraged Member States to consider utilizing the reporting checklist developed by the Government of Thailand on the implementation of the Bangkok Declaration as a useful self-assessment tool in their reporting on the follow-up to the Eleventh Congress.

B. Preparations for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

58. As at July 2007, the venue of the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to be held in 2010, remained to be determined. Over the previous two years, UNODC had engaged in consultations with four countries that had offered to host the Twelfth Congress. In the course of those

consultations, two countries had withdrawn their candidature. In that connection, the Commission, at its sixteenth session, agreed upon a draft resolution,[11] which it recommended for adoption by the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council. The paragraph by which the matter of the host of the Twelfth Congress would be settled remained open in the hope that the consultations between the two remaining possible host countries would be amicably concluded prior to consideration of the draft resolution by the Third Committee.

59. The Commission requested the Secretary-General to facilitate the organization of regional preparatory meetings. In accordance with past practice, the participation of the least developed countries in the regional preparatory meetings and in the Congress itself should be ensured through resources to be made available by the Secretary-General. The Commission also reiterated its request to the Secretary-General to provide UNODC with the necessary resources for the preparations for the Twelfth Congress and to ensure that adequate resources be provided in the programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011 to support the holding of the Congress.

VII. Emerging policy issues

60. Several emerging policy issues were discussed at the sixteenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. A crime prevention and criminal justice response to urban crime was one of the topics for the thematic discussion. Possible responses were preventive measures, including community-based responses and criminal justice responses, including international cooperation, which generated much interest and debate. A workshop on the theme "Successful crime reduction and prevention strategies in the urban context" was organized by the institutes of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network and further deliberations on the topic are expected to take place at future sessions of the Commission.

61. The sexual exploitation of children is a growing concern of the international community as it severely harms children and the development of future generations. Pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 56/138 of 19 December 2001 and 57/190 of 18 December 2002, the Secretary-General appointed an independent expert to conduct an in-depth study on violence against children.[12] Building on that work, one thematic discussion of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its sixteenth session was on effective crime prevention and criminal justice responses to combat sexual exploitation of children. During the discussion, growing concern on the part of many Member States was noted, especially with regard to the increase in the number of pornography cases, the depravity of the images and the fact that the problem has been exacerbated worldwide by the use of the Internet. The attention of the General Assembly is drawn to resolution 16/2 of the Commission, entitled "Effective crime prevention and criminal justice responses to combat sexual exploitation of children", recommended by the Commission for adoption by the Economic and Social Council. It encourages Member States to raise

[11] See E/2007/30-E/CN.15/2007/17, chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I.

[12] The report of the independent expert for the United Nations study on violence against children is contained in document A/61/299.

awareness of the issue, initiate necessary legislative and enforcement measures and invest resources in international cooperation to combat crimes involving the sexual exploitation of children. It also requested UNODC to explore ways and means by which it can contribute to effective crime prevention and criminal justice responses to combat the sexual exploitation of children.

62. Another area of growing concern among Member States has been the substantial increase in the transnational occurrence and range of offences of economic fraud and identity-related crime. In response, the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2004/26 of 21 July 2004, requested the Secretary-General to convene an intergovernmental expert group to prepare a study on fraud and the criminal misuse and falsification of identity. The report on the results of the second meeting of the Intergovernmental Expert Group was submitted to the Crime Commission at its sixteenth session (E/CN.15/2007/8 and Adds.1-3). The report provided recommendations in areas such as international cooperation; jurisdictional aspects; domestic powers to investigate, prosecute and punish related offences; cooperation between criminal justice systems and the private sector; identity-related crime in the context of development, reconstruction and economic transition; prevention; and training. On the recommendation of the Commission, the Economic and Social Council adopted a resolution on international cooperation in the prevention, investigation, prosecution and punishment of economic fraud and identity-related crime, calling for further research into the field of economic fraud and identity-related crime and suggesting a number of steps to be taken by Member States and UNODC (see Council resolution 2007/20).[13] UNODC will continue to consider ways of pooling experience and to develop strategies, facilitate further research and agree on practical action against identity-related crime.

63. International illicit trafficking in forest products is having an adverse environmental, social and economic impact in many countries. At its sixteenth session, the Commission adopted resolution 16/1, entitled "International cooperation in preventing and combating illicit international trafficking in forest products, including timber, wildlife and other forest biological resources". The Commission encouraged Member States to provide information to UNODC regarding their use of the Conventions against Transnational Organized Crime and Corruption to prevent, combat and eradicate illicit international trafficking in forest products. It also requested the secretariats of the Commission and the United Nations Forum on Forests to exchange information relating to forest law enforcement and governance and to explore ways of increasing synergies. UNODC has begun work in this area and the Commission requested the Executive Director of UNODC to submit a report on the implementation of resolution 16/1 to the Commission at its seventeenth session.

[13] See report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its sixteenth session (E/2007/30-E/CN.17/2007/17), chap. I, sect. B, draft resolution II, (http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/crime_cicp_commission_reports.html).

VIII. Conclusions and recommendations

64. It is recommended that the General Assembly consider taking the following measures:

Combating transnational organized crime

1. Reiterating its support and calling for further support from Member States for the work of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in implementing their challenging mandates;

2. Encouraging Member States to consider identifying local best practices by varied actors combating trafficking in persons and informing UNODC with a view to further developing the international response to the issue;

3. Inviting Member States to support and participate in events organized under the Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking, such as the forum on human trafficking to be held in Vienna in February 2008;

4. Encouraging Member States to consider the active participation of their law enforcement agencies in relevant UNODC initiatives, such as the container control programme of UNODC and the Customs Cooperation Council, and in the exchange of law enforcement information;

5. Encouraging Member States to consider the model legislation on witness protection prepared by UNODC and supporting the incorporation of good practices for the protection of witnesses in criminal proceedings involving organized crime into their national strategies;

6. Encouraging Member States to consider utilizing the UNODC manuals, such as the advanced anti-human trafficking manuals and the Counter-Kidnapping Manual, in their national training syllabuses;

Counter-terrorism

7. Providing further guidance with regard to the reinforcement of the work of UNODC on counter-terrorism issues and the development of new initiatives and inviting recipient and donor countries, as well as relevant organizations at the subregional, regional and international levels, to work closely with UNODC in this regard;

8. Expressing gratitude to the donors for the voluntary contributions made available to UNODC for its technical assistance activities on legal and related capacity-building aspects of counter-terrorism and inviting Member States to consider increasing the level of extrabudgetary and regular budget resources for implementing the counter-terrorism work of UNODC;

Use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice

9. Encouraging Member States to consider translating United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice into national

languages and to organize specific training for relevant criminal justice officials;

10. Encouraging Member States and other entities of the United Nations system to utilize existing manuals and handbooks that set out in detail how the standards and norms could be applied in different circumstances and that provide information on desirable practices;[14]

11. Encouraging Member States to provide resources for UNODC to continue providing assistance to developing countries, countries with economies in transition and countries in post-conflict situations in the area of the use and application of standards and norms and criminal justice reform;

Budgetary and other support

12. Reminding all Member States of the importance of providing regular and adequate resources to enable UNODC to fully implement its mandate and to provide technical support in accordance with the increasing demand;

Emerging policy issues

13. Keeping apprised of emerging policy issues and possible responses, for example in the areas of preventing and combating urban crime, child sexual exploitation, fraud and identity theft, and illicit international trafficking in forest products, including timber, wildlife and other forest biological resources.

[14] UNODC has developed the following handbooks and manual, some of which are still in the process of being finalized: Criminal Justice Assessment Toolkit (16 models covering all aspects of the criminal justice process); *Handbook of Basic Principles and Promising Practices on Alternatives to Imprisonment* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.07.XI.2); Handbook on Vulnerable Groups in Prison; *Handbook on Restorative Justice Programmes* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.06.V.15); Handbook for an Effective Law Enforcement Response to Violence against Women; Policing: The Integrity and Accountability of the Police; Handbook on Child Victims and Witnesses; Handbook on Prison Management; Handbook on Prisoners with Special Needs; Handbook on Women in Prison; Handbook on Prison Data Management; Handbook for Developing Paralegal Programmes in Post-Conflict Countries; Manual for the Measurement of Juvenile Justice Indicators; and Handbook on Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power.

Annex

Financial status of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund

Table
Contributions and pledges to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, January 2005-June 2007
(United States dollars)

Donor	*Total amount pledged*	*General purpose*	*Special purpose*
Australia	901 077	-	901 077[b]
Austria	1 511 574	70 419[a]	1 441 155[b]
Belarus	20 000	-	20 000[a]
Belgium	484 426	-	484 426[b]
Brazil	5 172 300	-	5 172 300[b]
Cameroon	1 957	1 957[a]	-
Canada	3 441 997	208 316[a]	3 233 682[b]
Cape Verde	5 731 707	-	5 731 707[b]
Chile	15 000	5 000[a]	10 000[a]
Colombia	572 076	-	572 076[a]
Croatia	6 000	1 000[a]	5 000[a]
Denmark	970 548	-	970 548[a]
European Commission	23 054 801	-	23 054 801[a]
Finland	220 493	-	220 493[b]
France	625 746	-	625 746[a]
Germany	531 600	-	531 600[b]
Greece	335 000	-	335 000[a]
Hungary	48 368	-	48 368[b]
India	106 000	106 000[a]	-
Ireland	927 434	-	927 434[a]
Italy	14 737 582	2 100 401[a]	12 637 182[b]
Japan	189 511	20 000[a]	169 511[a]
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	1 696 200	-	1 696 200[a]
Liechtenstein	250 000	-	250 000[b]
Luxembourg	8 795	-	8 795[a]
Madagascar	1 000	1 000[a]	-
Monaco	180 000	-	180 000[b]
Morocco	10 000	10 000[a]	-
Netherlands	3 854 800	-	3 854 800[b]
New Zealand	140 845	-	140 845[a]
Nigeria	8 717	-	8 717[a]
Norway	4 454 445	916 004[a]	3 538 441[a]
Panama	500	-	500[a]
Poland	100 000	-	100 000[a]
Republic of Korea	26 000	26 000[a]	-

Donor	*Total amount pledged*	*General purpose*	*Special purpose*
Spain	449 123	-	449 123 [a]
Sweden	7 513 102	212 007 [a]	7 301 095 [b]
Switzerland	1 646 695	-	1 646 695 [b]
Thailand	314 643	-	314 643 [a]
Tunisia	3 504	2 341 [a]	1 163 [c]
Turkey	300 000	-	300 000 [b]
United Arab Emirates	15 000 000	-	15 000 000 [b]
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	4 639 051	-	4 639 051 [b]
United States of America	5 119 952	-	5 119 952 [b]
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	11 336	11 336 [a]	-
United Nations Headquarters	10 060	-	10 060 [a]
Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat	25 000	-	25 000 [a]
United Nations Development Programme	185 988	-	185 988 [a]
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	10 000	-	10 000 [a]
United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security	243 960	-	243 960 [a]
United Nations Children's Fund	30 000	-	30 000 [a]
United Nations Democracy Fund	957 075	-	957 075 [a]
Cassa di Risparmio di Torino	80 000	-	80 000 [a]
Drosos Foundation (Switzerland)	435 530	-	435 530 [b]
Equipelectro Ltda.	31 965	-	31 965 [a]
Instituto Damasino (Brazil)	30 000	-	30 000 [a]
Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe	74 521	-	74 521 [a]
Provincia di Torino	8 916	-	8 916 [a]
Regione Piemonte	23 173	-	23 173 [a]
San Paolo Foundation	828 505	-	828 505 [a]
Scandinavia Research Council for Criminology	9 980	-	9 980 [a]
United States Agency for International Development	1 007 000	-	1 007 000 [b]
Other Persons	3	3 [a]	-
Total	**109 325 581**	**3 691 783**	**105 633 797**

[a] Paid.
[b] Paid in part.
[c] Pledged.

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African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 61/182 of 20 December 2006, the present report describes the operations of the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, including the substantive programme and activities it has developed to support the countries of the region in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice. The report discusses the governance and management of the Institute, describes the measures taken to initiate and maintain international cooperation and partnerships with other agencies, and indicates further opportunities for funding and support. It also addresses the future of the Institute as a unique regional promoter of socio-economic development through crime prevention initiatives and includes practical measures aimed at ensuring the sustainability of the Institute.

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I. Introduction

1. The present report has been prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 61/182 of 20 December 2006. It highlights the activities, operations and funding of the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and provides an outline of the Institute's programmes aimed at raising awareness and promoting the efforts of member States to implement the provisions contained in the international conventions relating to crime prevention and criminal justice. The activities of the Institute are intended to promote socio-economic development in the region by focusing on the value and use of available resources in developing effective and practical crime prevention strategies.

2. It is becoming increasingly clear that strategies for combating crime must take into account the fact that many forms of crime transcend geographical barriers, disregarding the mechanisms set up to enforce the law at the local and regional levels. The proliferation of crime entails horrendous consequences and debilitating cost for human life and socio-economic development.

3. The effects of the activities of organized criminal groups on the African continent drain resources that could otherwise be used by States to invest in public services to improve the quality of life of the population. Organized criminal groups severely hamper the crime prevention efforts of the fragile criminal justice systems of Africa by using underhand strategies to corrupt and undermine the judicial and law enforcement systems in Africa, weakening the potential for growth of national investigative capacities and eroding the confidence of the population in institutions, leading to social disharmony and civil conflict.

4. The presence of organized criminal groups and their illicit activities aggravates the frail economic situation of Africa. Due to historically deep-rooted factors, Africa still lacks the trained personnel, infrastructure and economic drive to strengthen crime prevention and criminal justice systems, in particular against organized criminal groups that possess advanced technologies. Strengthening the machinery for quality management of criminal justice and improving the equipment available to law enforcement agencies could yield significant results in the fight against organized crime.

5. Aware of their limitations and of the devastating impact of crime on their national economies, African States are willing to pursue tailored initiatives and programmes, in collaboration with the international community, to give more impetus to fight crime more decisively and to strengthen their criminal justice systems. Initiatives and programmes with a focus on Africa are developed through the Round Table for Africa, a partnership among the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Commission of the African Union.[1] At the regional and international levels, Africa is emerging as a partner in crime prevention efforts and is committed to making a significant contribution by implementing the available international strategies to combat crime. Those efforts include ratifying, acceding to and implementing the international conventions. Further, the concept of sharing best practices from each region about

[1] See Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/21 entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action, 2006-2010, on strengthening the rule of law and the criminal justice systems in Africa", which requested UNODC to support the implementation of the Programme of Action, 2006-2010, in cooperation with all African States, the African Union and the regional organizations, in particular in the context of the New Partnership for Africa's Development.

realistic measures to counter crime, as advocated by the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, has given Africa a platform to demonstrate to the international community the efficacy of its own traditional value system in resolving crime-related problems. The Institute, in accordance with its mandate, is implementing programmes at the national and regional levels and in cooperation with UNODC and other international crime prevention partners.

6. During the period under review, the Institute continued to receive political and technical support from its member States, its Governing Board, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the General Assembly, the African Union, UNODC, the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network and other interested parties, including the private and civil sectors, academic institutions such as universities, experts and other partners. The support and assistance received, including through partnerships with donor Governments and agencies, have enabled the Institute to offer technical assistance to its member States and to participate in a number of important activities.

7. The main focus of activities of the Institute has continued to be on promoting the incorporation into the national action plans of member States of the provisions of the relevant international instruments in order to strengthen their capacity to fight transnational organized crime. Accordingly, arrangements have been made through a systematic awareness-raising programme to encourage member States to adopt domestic legislation in line with the international instruments. Efforts have also been made to reflect the needs and realities of each country, paying due attention to the use of available local expertise and of other resources in the process of incorporation of international instruments into domestic legislation so as to make it more meaningful, sustainable and usable.

II. Governance and management of the Institute

A. Governing Board

8. Owing to delays in convening the tenth session of the Governing Board of the Institute, an extraordinary session of the Board was held in Kampala on 4 June 2007 for the purpose of discussing strategies to streamline procedures with a view to ensuring that the Board meets more regularly. The following countries attended the meeting: Kenya, Nigeria, Sudan and Uganda. It was decided that the tenth session of the Governing Board would be held in May 2008 in Khartoum, in order to resolve several outstanding issues affecting the operations and smooth functioning of the Institute. The Board elected the representative of Sudan to chair the tenth session of the Board. It called for further commitment from the member States to meet their financial obligations to the Institute and expressed satisfaction that the delay in holding the tenth session of the Governing Board had not prevented the smooth functioning of the Institute. It also reviewed the levels of financial support for the Institute and called for renewed efforts to mobilize resources, including fund-raising missions to capitals and appeals to relevant bodies of the United Nations.

9. Encouraged by the growing level of awareness among member States of their financial obligations to the Institute, as demonstrated by the marked improvement in financial contributions, the Board expressed appreciation to those member States

and called upon others to pay their contributions or to become members of the Institute by signing the documents of accession, thereby widening its base of support. In that regard, the Board made a proposal to appeal to the Secretary-General for his assistance in obtaining an upward revision of the United Nations grant to cover staff salaries and administrative expenses. It was decided that the appeal would be formalized at an appropriate time and in an appropriate forum.

10. The Board urged the Institute to continue its efforts to mobilize funds from member States and other donor communities to support the implementation of its programmed activities.

11. The Board discussed the proposal of the Institute to enter into joint ventures with sister agencies and the private sector. It took note of the schedule of proposed programme activities to be implemented in various regions of Africa and commended the Institute on the initiatives that had been launched to assist African countries in coping with emerging crime trends such as, for example, modernizing its information centre to facilitate the dissemination and exchange of information through the Internet, in particular information on crime data and best practices among member States. The Board pledged itself to offer the Institute the necessary support to make possible consultations with member States in various forums and to foster partnerships with other organizations that enjoyed strong donor support. The Board expressed its appreciation to the Government of Uganda for the generous hospitality given to the Institute.

B. General direction and management

12. The Institute has joined several initiatives to promote joint programmes with various institutions and other partners, including the business community, the media and professional scientific organizations such as laboratories, hospitals and medical centres, agricultural research institutes and associations of practising experts. In all those initiatives, the aim has been to address the issue of crime prevention and to encourage contributions from all sectors of society in order to develop and promote effective and realistic strategies in the fight against crime.

13. The Institute has benefited from the support of the Government of Nigeria, which seconded two volunteers from its Technical Aid Corps to strengthen the staffing of the Information and Documentation Unit of the Institute. The Institute has diversified its contacts through collaboration with bodies such as the National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and Other Related Matters of Nigeria, the Uganda Human Rights Commission and the Uganda National Bureau of Standards, as well as with civil society organizations such as the Association of Professional Engineers of Uganda and the Uganda Law Society. The Institute has also increased collaboration with several professional and sister organizations such as the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council, the East African Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisation, regional bureaux of Interpol, as well as the UNODC regional office in Nairobi.

III. Substantive programmes and activities

A. Overview

14. Significant efforts have been made to develop common activities that have a direct effect on consolidating collaboration with partner agencies in the area of crime prevention and the administration of criminal justice at the local and international levels, including UNODC, the National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and Other Related Matters, Prison Fellowship Uganda, the Conference of the Eastern and Central African Heads of Correctional Services and the International Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy, Canada.

15. A lack of financial resources has prompted the Institute to concentrate several activities in individual countries on a bilateral and pilot basis. The host country of the Institute has assisted by facilitating the launch of preliminary and initial operations in Uganda by utilizing available resources, with the option of replicating such activities in other countries, using the findings in Uganda as case studies and best practices to be disseminated to member States. The same technique was employed for a project currently being implemented in Nigeria in cooperation with the National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and Other Related Matters. The projects implemented to date have provided an opportunity for the Institute to make contact with a number of institutions that have the potential to mobilize financial resources from sustainable sources, including the resident mission in Kampala of the African Development Bank; the Department of Criminal Justice of North Carolina Central University; the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice of the United States of America; the diplomatic corps in Kampala; a number of local professional, civil and private sector organizations; as well as government departments such as the Uganda police, the Uganda prison service, the Directorate of Public Prosecutions and the Uganda Human Rights Commission.

B. Project activities

16. Some activities that could not be implemented in the biennium 2004-2005 have been rescheduled to be implemented in the biennium 2006-2007. Those rescheduled activities are listed below.

1. CyberWatch project

17. The Institute has developed a study, in conjunction with the commercial and banking sectors and tertiary institutions such as universities and colleges, to explore the extent of the effects of emerging Internet scams that pose a new challenge to the legitimate use of that medium, in particular for financial transactions. The African Development Bank is considering co-funding the implementation of the resulting project, which would be piloted in Uganda and replicated in the region and would include information campaigns aimed at potential victims and the establishment of contacts with relevant legislative and law enforcement authorities at the national and regional levels to raise awareness, as well as to identify and prosecute the perpetrators.

2. Evaluation study of alternative dispute resolution in Rwanda

18. The overwhelming numbers of suspects awaiting trial in the post-genocide era in Rwanda have necessitated the use of practical initiatives, which are based on socio-economic realities and respectful of cultural sensitivities. As part of its programme to develop innovative projects meeting the needs of member States with limited criminal justice capacity, the Institute has developed a study to evaluate the effectiveness of the criminal justice system in Rwanda, with particular reference to the traditional system of justice administration, the *gacaca* system. Preliminary contacts have been made with the authorities in Kigali and follow-up negotiations are being pursued with the envoy of Rwanda in Kampala. The findings of the study will be used to support the integration of African traditional value systems in the administration of conventional criminal justice systems. Authorities of neighbouring countries have already expressed an interest in the project. Given its importance for the social rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders, it is expected that international agencies and countries of other regions emerging from ethnic and political tensions will also be interested in the outcome of the study.

3. Transnational trafficking in persons in Nigeria

19. A joint project to curb transnational trafficking in human beings, developed by the Institute together with the Government of Nigeria, was launched in June 2006 with the financial and logistical support of the authorities. The problem of trafficking in human beings is widespread and has devastating consequences in the region. The project offers an opportunity to promote the ratification by other countries in the region of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (General Assembly resolution 55/25, annexes I and II, respectively). The project follows a similar project implemented in Uganda and is based on the findings of the Eighth United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems, covering the period 2001-2002.

4. Study on trafficking in children in Uganda

20. A study on the emerging trend of trafficking in children in several African countries, including Uganda, has been finalized and the resulting report is ready to be circulated. Efforts are being made to form a coalition against human trafficking, which will focus on raising awareness of trafficking in persons. Contact has been made with the Government of the United States, through its embassy in Kampala, to explore the possibility of funding the coalition initiative. Further efforts to combat the scourge of trafficking in children in Uganda have been strengthened by the First Regional Anti-Human Trafficking Conference in Eastern Africa, sponsored by the East African Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisation in conjunction with the Government of Uganda and the UNODC regional office for East Africa, which was held in Kampala from 19 to 22 June 2007. The Institute has presented a preliminary report on the findings of its study on human trafficking in Uganda and the ramifications for regional and international efforts to combat the scourge of human trafficking.

5. Curbing clandestine immigration to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

21. Following a request from the Government of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for technical assistance to address clandestine immigration, a project proposal was developed. A preliminary consultative mission clarified that the problem of

immigration to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya is a regional phenomenon, requiring the full participation of neighbouring countries.

6. Factors causing recidivism in Uganda

22. The collaboration of the Institute with the Government of Uganda has led to a number of proposals for national action plans to strengthen the justice system and the administration of correctional services. Following a project on social work in prisons, a new study on the factors causing recidivism is expected to have a cost-effective impact (by reducing prison-management costs) as well as a preventive one. While the maximum capacity of government prisons in Uganda is 9,094 inmates, the population rose to 18,659 in 2005, of whom 40 per cent were recidivists. This seems to reflect the overall situation in the region, causing prison overcrowding and having a negative effect on health conditions in prisons. A training workshop on reconciliation, rehabilitation and reintegration, organized for welfare officers of the Ugandan prison service, was held in May 2006. Thanks to a memorandum of understanding between the Institute and North Carolina Central University of the United States, a team of experts from the United States, led by the University, is scheduled to make an assessment visit to Uganda in October 2007 to assist with modernizing data management systems and improving general systems, administration, follow-up, monitoring and outreach practice, as well as developing strategies to provide technical support to the Ugandan prison service. In a related activity, the Institute, in collaboration with the International Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy of Canada, is scheduled to hold training workshops in September 2007 for the authorities in Kenya, Uganda and Zambia on the application of parole and probation services to ease the problem of prison congestion in Africa. In this type of training, the value and use of social work in prisons is particularly emphasized.

7. Country profile project

23. Crime prevention strategies are benefiting increasingly from the availability and use of reliable criminal statistics. The initiative of the Institute to establish a database on criminal statistics offers the African region, in particular law enforcement and policymaking authorities, a useful tool for the promotion of information exchange and sharing of best practices. The authorities of the region are increasingly willing to respond to the requests and proposals of the Institute for the exchange of statistics and the number of reports providing national statistics and feeding the database is growing. It is hoped that funding will become available to post the statistics online, as that would improve accessibility. The project will advance the capacity of the Institute to participate in international crime prevention programmes as a source of reliable crime statistics from the African region.

8. Crime prevention journal

24. The Institute has developed a project to publish in the form of a journal, on a regular basis, a compilation of research-based reports addressing crime patterns and prevention measures. It is hoped that the journal will provide Governments with information on strategies to fight crime, as well as on crime patterns prevalent in their region and that it will encourage collaboration with publishing houses, authors and resource persons in research-based institutions related to crime prevention and extend the base of contacts for the Institute in the promotion of its activities.

9. Victimization survey

25. An African victimization survey, sponsored by UNODC and coordinated by the Institute, is to be launched in the last quarter of 2007. Data will be collected on the various trends in different crimes affecting Africa. The crimes surveyed will include murder, theft of various sorts, rape, burglary and assault. Based on the findings of the study, relevant mechanisms for intervention and policy at the regional or international level, or both, will be recommended.

10. Effective cooperation between the Institute and its partners

26. It is hoped that, through increased contacts with various institutes for research, the regional bureaux of Interpol, regional police authorities and UNODC, the Institute will succeed in obtaining technical assistance to overcome the difficulties faced by the region in becoming connected to online communication facilities. The Institute is also consolidating its cooperation with the mass media with a view to obtaining publicity and identifying possibilities for joint collaboration with other agencies on issues of common interest. Equipped with online facilities for effective local, regional and international coverage, the media houses have correspondent sections that address crime, human rights and criminal justice issues in their substantive publications; these could be used by the Institute to assist in the dissemination of information and the establishment of partnerships with the private sector.

11. Extradition and mutual legal assistance

27. Efforts are continuing to finalize the extradition and mutual legal assistance project, which is expected to assist in the process of harmonizing legislation and promoting a consensus in the development of regional instruments. A meeting of experts and ministers is planned to discuss the draft convention on mutual legal assistance, for subsequent consideration by the appropriate organ of the African Union, and by the African Union Summit.

12. Criminalistics project

28. Together with the Government of Uganda, the Institute has developed a project to improve the capacity of law enforcement agencies to detect, investigate and streamline the prosecution of crime through the use of available local expertise, equipment and scientific analysis of data in hospitals, universities, research institutions and other agencies. A workshop on the science of criminalistics for professionals was held in Uganda in January 2007; it is intended to replicate the workshop in all the subregions of Africa.

13. Modernization of the information centre of the Institute

29. In order to modernize and widen the scope and usability of the information centre, the Institute has completed the initial process of inputting all references online for wider international accessibility, including recordings of major expert meetings, conferences and visits at which thematic issues in crime prevention and the administration of criminal justice were discussed. It is anticipated that, in the future, some publications may be made available only by subscription as a means of raising income for the Institute.

14. Purchase of computer equipment

30. Using part of the funds received from the assessed financial contributions of member States, the Institute purchased new computer equipment.

15. Production of reports and a newsletter

31. As an ongoing activity, the Institute has continued with the production of reports on the implemented activities. These are disseminated to partner agencies as well as posted online, together with other documents.

IV. International cooperation and partnerships

32. The Institute continues to maintain close cooperation with UNODC and the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, whose programmes form an important component of the activities of the Institute in the African region. The Institute has participated in several international sessions that have direct benefits for crime prevention and criminal justice services for Africa.

33. The Institute continues to maintain close cooperation with the African Union and other regional bodies and initiatives such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development, ECA, the East African Community, the Economic Community of West African States, the Southern African Development Community and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development in an effort to promote regional cooperation as an effective approach to removing impediments to crime prevention initiatives. The Institute continued to participate in various meetings and conferences at the subregional, regional and international levels and further explored prospects for cooperation and new partnerships. A number of countries, among them Algeria, Botswana, Gabon, Mali and South Africa, have expressed an interest in acceding to the Statute of the Institute and becoming members.

34. The Institute participated in several regional and international meetings, including the First Regional Anti-Human Trafficking Conference in Eastern Africa, held in Kampala from 19 to 22 June 2007; the sixteenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Vienna from 23 to 27 April 2007;[2] a regional training workshop on anti-corruption for investigators, prosecutors and anti-corruption policymakers in East Africa, held in Nairobi in March 2007; the Conference on Combating Organized Crime, held in Pretoria in March 2007; a conference on the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, held in Courmayeur, Italy, in December 2006; an intergovernmental expert group meeting on United Nations Standards and Norms in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Vienna in November 2006; the eighth annual general meeting of the East African Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisation, held in Kampala in September 2006; the Sixth Annual Colloquium of the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime, held in Canberra in September 2006; the

[2] At the sixteenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, a draft resolution was approved by the Commission, to be brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council, entitled "International cooperation for the improvement of access to legal aid in criminal justice systems, particularly in Africa", which requests UNODC, subject to extrabudgetary resources and in cooperation with the Institute, to assist member States, upon request, in their efforts to apply the Lilongwe Declaration on Accessing Legal Aid in the Criminal Justice System in Africa.

Intergovernmental Expert Group Meeting on Lessons Learnt from United Nations Congresses on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Bangkok in August 2006; and an expert meeting on review of the Criminal Justice Assessment Toolkit, organized by UNODC and held in Vienna in July 2006.

V. Funding and support

35. The total income of the Institute for the period from January to December 2006 amounted to US$ 826,106.06. The funds were derived from (a) assessed contributions from member States amounting to $525,102.90 (63 per cent); (b) the 2006 portion of the United Nations grant of $147,519.81 (38 per cent) (the appropriation for the 2006-2007 biennium being $380,300); and (c) other income received from rental of the premises and facilities of the Institute, as well as interest on deposits, amounting to $153,599.41 (19 per cent).

36. For the period from January to May 2007, the total resources of the Institute amounted to $225,013.39, consisting of (a) the appropriation received on the outstanding balance of the 2006-2007 United Nations grant ($194,754.32) (the remaining balance, $37,725.87, is only enough to cover two months' salaries, June and July, the remainder having to be covered by the contributions from member States); (b) other income received from the rental of the premises and facilities of the Institute and interest on deposits from January to May 2007 ($30,259.07). There were no receipts from member States during the period.

A. Assessed financial contributions from member States

37. During the reporting period, the Institute was able to collect $525,109.90; this was made possible by payments from the following member States: Ghana ($71,393), Kenya ($44,987.11), Nigeria ($390,961.50), Tanzania ($7,038) and Uganda ($10,723.29). Although the amounts collected from member States in terms of contributions have continued to rise, the outstanding balance in assessed financial contributions of member States remains high. As at 31 May 2007, of the total assessed contributions of $4,644,267 for the period 1989-2007, only $1,797,434 had been received, leaving an outstanding balance of $2,846,833. It should be noted that, during the period 2004-2007, the Governing Board did not convene its usual ordinary sessions to review the status of contributions from member States and therefore did not devise a means of raising the level of collections of outstanding assessed contributions from member States for both current and prior periods. As an extraordinary meeting of the Governing Board was held in early June 2007 and a new Chairman was elected, it is expected that the issue of the contributions of member States will be prioritized.

B. United Nations grant

38. Since the biennium 1992-1993, the Institute has received a grant from the United Nations. The grant for the biennium 2006-2007 was maintained at the same level as the previous grant ($380,300). However, the current grant will cover the payment of only 18 months of the salaries for the core professional posts of Director, Deputy Director, Research Adviser, Training Adviser, Information/Documentation Adviser and Administrative/Finance Officer, instead of

the full 24 months required. The Institute has continued to make up the deficit by using funds from the assessed contributions of member States, if available, or by delaying salary payments when funds were not available.

39. At its extraordinary meeting, the Governing Board revised staff salaries in order to compensate for the impact of inflation and currency fluctuations during the period since the last salary revision, in 1989. Having regard to General Assembly resolution 61/182, in particular operative paragraphs 6 and 7, the Board also took into consideration its previous Assembly resolutions which had called for review of the salaries of the staff of the Institute to bring them into line with those of United Nations staff and to enable the Institute to attract and retain highly skilled and motivated staff. The Board also appealed to the General Assembly to give further consideration to the full adoption of United Nations salary scales by the Institute and to increasing the grant during the present budget year from the current $380,000 to $602,260 in order to cover the 75 per cent salary increase awarded to the staff.

40. The Board expressed its gratitude to the General Assembly and its relevant Committees for the continued financial support provided and was optimistic that the General Assembly would consider the request for additional funding favourably.

VI. Future of the Institute

41. There has been a progressive improvement in the levels of support and facilitation for the Institute to demonstrate its technical capacity to provide mandated services to African countries, which is shown by increased remittances from and enhanced collaboration with member States and partners. The main sources of income available to the Institute are (a) assessed financial contributions received, (b) grant from the United Nations and (c) interest and other income.

A. United Nations grant

42. Whereas there has been a significant increase in the levels of payment of member States' financial contributions to the Institute, the United Nations grant has remained constant at a biennial figure of $380,000. Efforts to review that support have been made, with several approaches having been made to the relevant organs of the United Nations since 2003, on the grounds of the increased demand for technical assistance from the Institute and the continued impact of economic inflation and currency rates. Despite the improvement in remittances from member States, most countries in Africa are facing economic hardship that undermines their capacity to provide for the Institute adequately. In recognition of this fact, the Governing Board of the Institute has made a special appeal to the Secretary-General, to consider favourably the resolution for mobilizing support from the United Nations regular budget, in particular in view of General Assembly resolution 61/182.

B. Assessed contributions from member States

43. The Institute has a scheduled programme of regional projects to be implemented for the benefit of all African countries as an additional measure to mobilize support and enhance cooperation. The Governing Board has expressed its commitment to mobilizing support by means of a number of practical measures,

including missions to African capitals to mobilize resources, diplomatic missions to international meetings, as well as requests for endorsement of the Institute's proposals by civil society organizations and professional bodies that are donor-supported and operate in various countries. The process of accession to the Institute by several States is also progressing and is expected to broaden the membership base and, consequently, donor support. Through the Governing Board, the Institute has made proposals to some African countries to consider the possibility of seconding their national experts to the Institute to strengthen its delivery of services by increased staffing and on the basis of a special cost-saving arrangement for the Institute.

44. The Governing Board has devised special measures to solicit higher levels of compliance by African countries by approaching the donor community with a set of proposals to be delivered within the framework of the United Nations, such as through the Group of African States and United Nations bodies such as the General Assembly and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Those proposals are (a) to make a special appeal to member States to pay their assessed contributions; (b) to call upon member States to open opportunities for collaboration on joint projects among their specialized bodies, civil society organizations and the Institute; (c) to streamline contacts and the exchange of information aimed at improving mutual cooperation with various institutions at the national and international levels.

C. Other income

45. The Institute has received a number of proposals from professional and specialized bodies for collaboration on joint projects. The Institute is keen to collaborate with such organizations and is in the process of finalizing a number of memorandums of understanding in that respect. Most of the proceeds will be used to carry out activities of various subprogrammes of the Institute.

VII. Conclusion

46. The practical measures enumerated above have been proposed pursuant to General Assembly resolution 61/182 (operative paragraphs 3, 4 and 5), which reiterated the need to strengthen further the capacity of the Institute to support national mechanisms for crime prevention and criminal justice in African countries; urged the States members of the Institute to make every possible effort to meet their obligations to the Institute; and called upon member States and non-governmental organizations to continue adopting concrete practical measures to support the Institute in the development of the requisite capacity and to implement its programmes and activities aimed at strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa.

47. The Institute will continue to demonstrate its capacity to deliver mandated services to its member States. New impetus to that end has come from the initiatives of the Governing Board and from agreements with UNODC, the host country, the African Union and other bilateral arrangements. The secretariat of the Institute continues to count on that support in order to implement its current and future programmes and serve Africa more meaningfully in the area of crime prevention and in order to further strengthen the efforts of all African countries in the field of the administration of criminal justice.